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A/RES/47/101
26 April 1993

Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 95

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/710)]

47/101. United Nations International Drug Control Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/104 of 16 December 1991, in which it requested that the restructuring process of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme be completed as soon as possible so that the Programme could fulfil its mandate with enhanced effectiveness and efficiency,

Recalling also the Political Declaration and the Global Programme of Action adopted at its seventeenth special session on 23 February 1990, 1/

Emphasizing that the problem of drug abuse and illicit trafficking has to be considered within the broader economic and social context,

Reaffirming the importance of the role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme as the main focus for concerted international action for drug abuse control,

Underlining the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues, and endorsing paragraph 1 (c) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/38 of 21 June 1991,

Recognizing that international cooperation against illicit trafficking should be pursued in full conformity with the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law,

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1/ Resolution S-17/2, annex.

Noting that in the consideration of the programme budget proposals submitted by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1992-1993 full account should be taken of the measures proposed pursuant to resolution 45/179 of 21 December 1990 and Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 13 (XXXV), adopted at its thirty-fifth session, 2/

Commending the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the activities undertaken so far in the performance of the functions entrusted to it,

Considering the need for an evaluation of the problems, achievements and challenges related to drug control programmes, with a view to strengthening international cooperation,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General 3/ on the measures taken to implement resolution 46/104, and welcomes the drug control efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to date;

2. Reaffirms Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/38, which calls upon the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to give policy guidance to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and to monitor its activities;

3. Urges the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to give special emphasis to the implementation of those issues from the Global Programme of Action identified as priorities by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in its resolution 2 (XXXIV), adopted at its thirty-fourth session; 4/

4. Stresses the importance of the smooth functioning of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the achievement of the best possible results in the implementation of its mandate;

5. Calls upon the Secretary-General to take, as a matter of urgency, all necessary measures to complete the organizational and administrative structure of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions;

6. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in accordance with the authority delegated to him by the Secretary-General, to coordinate and provide effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities in order to ensure coherence of actions within the Programme as well as coordination,

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2/ See E/1992/25-E/CN.7/1992/14, chap. XI.

3/ See A/47/471.

4/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1991, Supplement No. 4 (E/1991/24), chap. XIV, sect. A.

complementarity and non-duplication of such activities across the United Nations system, and in this context actively to seek cooperation and support for a global approach from other international organizations, non-governmental organizations, bilateral programmes and national institutions;

7. Strongly urges all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in particular by increasing the voluntary contributions to the Programme, with a view to expanding and strengthening its operational activities and technical cooperation, in particular with developing countries;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on measures taken to implement the present resolution.

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16 December 1992

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/710)]

47/102. International action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking

The General Assembly,

Gravely concerned that the illicit demand for, production of and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances continue to threaten seriously the socio-economic and political systems and the stability, national security and sovereignty of an increasing number of States,

Reaffirming the principle of shared responsibility of the international community in combating drug abuse and illicit trafficking,

Reaffirming also that the Declaration 1/ and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, 2/ adopted by the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Political Declaration and the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session 3/ and the Declaration adopted by the World Ministerial Summit to Reduce the Demand for Drugs and to

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1/ See Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17-26 June 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. B.

2/ Ibid., sect. A.

3/ Resolution S-17/2, annex.

/...

Combat the Cocaine Threat, held in London from 9 to 11 April 1990, 4/ together with the international drug control treaties, provide a comprehensive framework for international cooperation in drug control,

Recognizing the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandates within this comprehensive framework,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to improve the effectiveness of the regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East in addressing specific drug law enforcement problems of the various regions,

Emphasizing the need for an analysis of transit routes used by drug traffickers, which are constantly changing and expanding to include a growing number of countries and regions in all parts of the world, particularly those that are vulnerable to illicit transit traffic on account, inter alia, of their geographical location,

Alarmed by the growing connection between drug trafficking and terrorism in various parts of the world,

Recognizing the efforts of countries that produce narcotic drugs for scientific, medicinal and therapeutic uses to prevent the channelling of such substances to illicit markets and to maintain production at a level consistent with licit demand,

Reiterating its condemnation of criminal activities that involve children in the use, production and illicit distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and emphasizing the need for the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other competent agencies to give high priority to measures designed to address this problem,

Noting the increasing number of States acceding to or ratifying the international drug control treaties, including those that have become States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, 5/

Reaffirming that all efforts to combat problems related to the consumption, production and manufacture of and traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the flow of money related to these activities should be accompanied by effective measures to promote the economic and social development of affected States,

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4/ A/45/262, annex.

5/ E/CONF.82/15 and Corr.2

Recalling its resolution 46/103 of 16 December 1991, in which it reiterated its invitation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider, at its thirty-fifth session, the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Expert Group to Study the Economic and Social Consequences of Illicit Traffic in Drugs, 6/ together with the comments of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, with a view to recommending appropriate follow-up activity,

Noting the action taken by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on this issue, including its decision to study the issue again at its thirty-seventh session,

I

International action to combat drug abuse and illicit trafficking

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General; 7/

2. Reiterates its condemnation of the crime of drug trafficking in all its forms, and urges continued and effective international action to combat it, in keeping with the principle of shared responsibility and with full respect for national sovereignty, territorial integrity and the cultural identity of States;

3. Welcomes the initiatives of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandates within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, 2/ the Global Programme of Action 3/ and relevant consensus documents;

4. Supports the focus on national and regional strategies for drug abuse control, particularly the master-plan approach, and urges the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to keep in mind that these should be complemented with effective interregional strategies;

5. Notes with appreciation the activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to promote and monitor the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse, 1991-2000, under the theme, "A global response to a global challenge", including the successful launching by the Programme of the goodwill ambassadors initiative, and invites Governments to cooperate with the Programme in further developing this initiative;

6. Takes note of the recommendation that Governments should establish national focal points or coordinating mechanisms for the Decade; 8/

6/ A/C.3/45/8, annex.

7/ A/47/378 and A/47/471.

8/ See A/47/471, para. 13.

7. Recommends that Governments cooperate fully with the Coordinator for the Decade to enhance and facilitate the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on progress made in attaining the objectives of the Decade, to be submitted to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council;

8. Requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, in cooperation with relevant agencies, including the United Nations Children's Fund, to study the involvement of children in drug-related criminal activities and the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by children, with a view to recommending measures that may be taken to address this problem;

9. Welcomes the trend towards ratification and implementation of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, 9/ that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol, 10/ the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 11/ and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988; 5/

10. Requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to include in its report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking of 1988 a section on experience gained to date in implementing the Convention, which should contain recommendations and strategies for its further implementation;

11. Recommends that the United Nations International Drug Control Programme invite the cooperation of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in its activities to counter drug-related criminality, including money-laundering, to ensure complementarity of their efforts and to avoid duplication;

12. Encourages all countries to take action to prevent the illicit arms trade by which weapons are provided to drug traffickers;

13. Expresses its satisfaction with the efforts of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to improve the functioning and impact of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and with its decision, that the heads of national drug law enforcement agencies of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Subcommission on Illicit Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East should continue to meet annually;

14. Requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in its report on illicit traffic in drugs to analyse world-wide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means for improving the capacity of States along those routes to deal with all aspects of the drug problem;

9/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 520, No. 7515.

10/ Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

11/ Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

15. Emphasizes the connection between the illicit production and supply of, demand for, sale of and traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the economic, social and cultural conditions of the countries affected and that solutions to these problems must take into account the differences and diversity of the problem in each country;

16. Calls upon the international community to provide increased international economic and technical cooperation to Governments, at their request, in support of programmes for the substitution of illicit crops by means of integrated rural development and alternative development programmes that respect fully the jurisdiction and sovereignty of countries and the cultural traditions of peoples;

17. Takes note of the initiative of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to study the concept of swapping debt for alternative development in the area of international drug abuse control and the decision of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider this matter at its thirty-sixth session on the basis of a report of the Executive Director of the Programme; 12/

18. Encourages Governments to nominate experts for the roster to be maintained by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, to ensure that the Programme may draw from the widest pool of expertise and experience in implementing its policies and programmes;

19. Stresses the need for effective action to prevent the diversion for illicit purposes of precursors and other chemicals, materials and equipment frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

20. Commends the International Narcotics Control Board for its valuable work in monitoring production and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances so as to limit their use to medical and scientific purposes, and for the effective manner in which it has implemented its additional responsibilities, under article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, concerning the control of precursors and essential chemicals;

21. Takes note of the conclusions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-fifth session on the economic and social consequences of illicit trafficking; 13/

22. Expresses its satisfaction with efforts being made by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and other United Nations bodies to obtain reliable data on drug abuse and illicit trafficking, including the development of the International Drug Abuse Assessment System, the project to determine possible improvements to the international system for the collection of data on illicit traffic and money-laundering, as well as the programme of technical cooperation with developing countries in collaboration with the Financial Action Task Force, and requests the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-sixth session on the progress being made in these areas;

12/ See E/1992/25-E/CN.7/1992/14, chap. XI, resolution 2 (XXXV).

13/ Ibid., chap. VI.

23. Notes with satisfaction that the United Nations Social Defence Research Institute will complete its world-wide research study on the economic and social consequences of drug abuse and illicit trafficking in 1993;

24. Recommends to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, when it studies the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on the economic and social consequences of drug abuse and illicit trafficking at its thirty-seventh session, to consider including this issue as an item on its agenda;

25. Appeals to States and the international donor community to increase voluntary contributions to the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to enable it to expand its programmes further ;

II

Implementation of the Global Programme of Action against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General 14/ concerning the implementation of the Global Programme of Action; 3/

2. Reaffirms its commitment to implementing the mandates contained in the Global Programme of Action and the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control; 2/

3. Notes with satisfaction the framework established by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to monitor implementation of the Global Programme of Action;

4. Calls upon States to take all possible steps to promote and implement individually and in cooperation with other States the mandates and recommendations contained in the Global Programme of Action, with a view to translating the Programme into practical action to the widest possible extent at the national, regional and international levels;

5. Calls upon the United Nations and its relevant bodies, the specialized agencies, other relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend their cooperation and assistance to States in the promotion and implementation of the Global Programme of Action;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "International drug control".

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/715)]

47/103. International Conference on Central American Refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/1 of 7 October 1987, 42/110 of 7 December 1987, 42/204 of 11 December 1987, 42/231 of 12 May 1988, 43/118 of 8 December 1988, 44/139 of 15 December 1989, 45/141 of 14 December 1990 and 46/107 of 16 December 1991,

Recalling that the International Conference on Central American Refugees is related to the initiative of the Central American Presidents expressed in the procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace in Central America, concluded at the Esquipulas II summit meeting in August 1987, 1/ as indicated in the San Salvador communiqué on the Central American refugees, of 9 September 1988, 2/

Recognizing the importance and validity of the Declaration and the Concerted Plan of Action in favour of Central American Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons, adopted at the International Conference on Central American Refugees held at Guatemala City from 29 to 31 May 1989 3/ and the Declaration of the First International Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the Conference, 4/ especially the framework contained in the Concerted Plan of Action,

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1/ A/42/521-S/19085, annex.

2/ A/C.3/43/6, annex.

3/ See A/44/527 and Corr.1 and 2, annex.

4/ CIREFCA/CS/90/10.

/...

Noting with satisfaction the concerted efforts being made by the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico to find lasting solutions to the problems of the refugees, returnees and displaced persons in implementing the aims and objectives of the Concerted Plan of Action as an integral part of efforts to achieve a stable and lasting peace and democratization of the region,

Welcoming the peace agreements achieved in the peace process in El Salvador, whereby efforts are being made to consult with all national sectors, the peace dialogue in Guatemala and the progress being made in Nicaragua in the implementation of its national reconciliation policy and in assistance to the uprooted populations, which continues to encourage movements of voluntary repatriation and settlement of internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the substantial support that, inter alia, the Secretary-General, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme, the donor community and national and international non-governmental organizations have given the Conference since its inception,

Taking note of the Declaration of the Second International Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the Conference, 5/ held at San Salvador, on 7 and 8 April 1992,

Convinced that peace, liberty, development and democracy are essential in order to solve the problems of uprooted populations in the region,

1. Takes note of the reports submitted by the Secretary-General 6/ and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees 7/ and of the second status report on the implementation of the Concerted Plan of Action of the International Conference on Central American Refugees;

2. Welcomes with satisfaction the outcome of the meetings of the Follow-Up Committee of the International Conference on Central American Refugees, held at San José on 2 and 3 April 1991, at San Pedro Sula, Honduras, from 17 to 19 June 1991, at Tegucigalpa on 13 and 14 August 1991, at Managua on 25 and 26 October 1991, at San Salvador on 7 and 8 April 1992 and at Managua on 29 September and 28 October 1992;

3. Urges the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico to continue to implement and follow up the programmes benefiting refugees, returnees and displaced persons in accordance with their national development plans;

4. Reaffirms its conviction that the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced persons to their countries or communities of origin is one of the most positive signs of the progress of peace in the region;

5/ CIREFCA/CS/92/11.

6/ A/47/364.

7/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/47/12), paras. 161-164; and A/47/12/Add.1, para. 28.

5. Expresses its conviction that the processes of return to and reintegration in the countries and communities of origin should take place in conditions of dignity and security and with the necessary guarantees to ensure that the affected populations are included in the respective national development plans;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and other organs of the United Nations system to continue their support for and involvement in the planning, implementation, evaluation and follow-up of the programmes generated through the Conference process;

7. Supports the Governments of the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico in urgently seeking more precise details about the support to be provided by the United Nations Development Programme in the immediate future, once the emergency stage has been completed, with the assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and once the transition towards a process of sustained development of the target populations has been initiated, within the framework of the Conference;

8. Welcomes with satisfaction the progress made in the implementation of the Development Programme for Displaced Persons, Refugees and Repatriated Persons, and urges the Central American countries to continue their determined support to ensure that the Programme achieves its aims;

9. Appeals to the international community, particularly to the donor community, to continue and to strengthen their support for the Conference and to continue complying with the financing offered so as to be able effectively to achieve the goals and objectives of the Concerted Plan of Action, and to consolidate the progress made thus far in humanitarian assistance to refugees and repatriated and displaced persons of the region;

10. Supports the special attention that the Central American countries, Belize and Mexico are giving to the particular needs of refugee, repatriated and displaced women and children and to the measures being adopted to protect and improve the environment and to preserve ethnic and cultural values;

11. Resolves to give its full support to the Declaration of the Second International Meeting of the Follow-Up Committee of the International Conference on Central American Refugees, held at San Salvador on 7 and 8 April 1992 5/ and the communiqués of the meetings of the Follow-up Committee held at Managua on 29 September and 28 October 1992;

12. Supports the initiative of the Governments of the countries of Central America, Belize and Mexico to extend the duration of the Conference process until May 1994, in the light of the new needs that have emerged following the changes in the region;

13. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

89th plenary meeting
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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/715)]

47/104. Continuation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 42/108 of 7 December 1987, in which it decided to review, not later than at its forty-seventh session, the arrangements for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with a view to determining whether the Office should be continued beyond 31 December 1993,

Recognizing the need for concerted international action on behalf of the increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner,

Considering the outstanding work that has been performed by the Office of the High Commissioner in providing international protection and material assistance to refugees and displaced persons as well as in promoting permanent solutions to their problems,

Noting with deep appreciation the effective manner in which the Office of the High Commissioner has been dealing with various essential humanitarian tasks entrusted to it,

1. Decides to continue the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for a further period of five years from 1 January 1994;

2. Decides also to review, not later than at its fifty-second session, the arrangements for the Office of the High Commissioner with a view to determining whether the Office should be continued beyond 31 December 1998.

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/715)]

47/105. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of her Office, 1/ as well as the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner on the work of its forty-third session, 2/ and taking note of the statement made by the High Commissioner on 10 November 1992, 3/

Recalling its resolution 46/106 of 16 December 1991,

Reaffirming the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner, as well as the fundamental importance of the international protection function of the High Commissioner and the need for States to cooperate with the High Commissioner in the exercise of this primary and essential responsibility,

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/47/12).

2/ A/47/12/Add.1.

3/ See A/C.3/47/SR.34.

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Noting with satisfaction that one hundred and fourteen States are now parties to the 1951 Convention 4/ and/or the 1967 Protocol 5/ relating to the Status of Refugees,

Welcoming the valuable support extended by Governments to the High Commissioner in carrying out her humanitarian tasks,

Noting with concern that the number of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner, as well as of other persons to whom her Office is asked to extend assistance and protection, has continued to increase and that their protection continues to be seriously jeopardized in many situations as a result of non-admission, expulsion, refoulement and unjustified detention, as well as other threats to their physical security, dignity and well-being, and lack of respect for fundamental freedoms and human rights,

Commending the continued efforts of the High Commissioner to improve the situation of refugee women and children, who represent the majority of refugee populations and who, in many cases, are exposed to a variety of difficult situations affecting their physical and legal protection, as well as their psychological and material well-being,

Emphasizing the need for States to assist the High Commissioner in her efforts to find durable and timely solutions to the problems of refugees based on new approaches that take into account the current size and characteristics of these problems and are built on respect for fundamental freedoms and human rights and internationally agreed protection principles and concerns,

Welcoming the commitment of the High Commissioner, bearing in mind her mandate and responsibilities, to explore and undertake activities aimed at preventing conditions that give rise to refugee outflows, as well as to strengthen emergency preparedness and response mechanisms and the concerted pursuit of voluntary repatriation,

Commending those States, particularly the least developed among them, which, despite severe economic and development challenges of their own, continue to admit large numbers of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner into their territories, and emphasizing the need to share the burden of these States to the maximum extent possible through international assistance, including development-oriented assistance, and through promotion of durable solutions,

Commending the High Commissioner and her staff for the dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities, and paying special tribute to those staff members who have lost their lives in the course of their duties,

1. Strongly reaffirms the fundamental nature of the function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to provide international protection and the need for States to cooperate fully with the Office in fulfilling this function, in particular by acceding to and fully and effectively implementing the relevant international and regional refugee instruments;

4/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, No. 2545.

5/ Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

2. Recognizes the increasing magnitude and complexity of present refugee problems, the risk of further refugee outflows in certain countries or regions and the challenges confronting refugee protection;

3. Emphasizes the need to keep issues related to refugees, displaced persons, asylum-seekers and other migratory flows firmly on the international political agenda, especially the question of solution-oriented approaches to deal with such contemporary problems and their causes;

4. Calls upon all States to refrain from taking measures that jeopardize the institution of asylum, in particular by returning or expelling refugees contrary to the fundamental prohibitions against these practices, and urges States to ensure fair and efficient determination procedures for asylum-seekers and to continue to give humane treatment and to grant asylum to refugees;

5. Expresses deep concern regarding persistent problems in some countries or regions, which seriously jeopardize the security or well-being of refugees, including incidents of refoulement, expulsion, physical attacks and detention under unacceptable conditions, and calls upon States to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection as well as humane treatment of asylum-seekers in accordance with internationally recognized human rights norms;

6. Acknowledges with appreciation the progress made in the implementation of the Guidelines on the Protection of Refugee Women 6/ and calls upon States, the High Commissioner and other parties concerned to cooperate in eliminating all forms of discrimination, sexual exploitation and violence against female refugees and asylum-seekers and in promoting their active involvement in decisions affecting their lives and communities;

7. Welcomes the appointment of a Senior Coordinator for Refugee Children, and reiterates the importance of promoting measures to ensure the protection and well-being of refugee children, in particular unaccompanied minors, in coordination with States and other international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

8. Welcomes also the proposal of the High Commissioner to appoint an environmental coordinator responsible for developing guidelines and taking other measures for incorporating environmental considerations into the programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner, especially in the least developed countries, in view of the impact on the environment of the large numbers of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner;

9. Reaffirms the importance of attaining durable solutions to refugee problems, including voluntary repatriation, integration in the country of asylum and resettlement in third countries, as appropriate, and urges all States and relevant organizations to support the High Commissioner in her efforts to search for durable solutions to the problem of refugees and displaced persons, primarily through the preferred solution of voluntary repatriation;

6/ See document EC/SCP/67, annex, of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

10. Underlines strongly State responsibility, particularly as it relates to the countries of origin, including addressing root causes, facilitating voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return, in accordance with international practice, of their nationals who are not refugees;

11. Notes the significant organized voluntary repatriation movements that have taken place in 1992, and calls upon all States and relevant organizations to support the High Commissioner in continuing and further reinforcing her efforts to promote conditions conducive to voluntary return in safety and dignity;

12. Urges the High Commissioner to continue her efforts to involve international, national and intergovernmental development agencies, as well as non-governmental agencies, in the planning phases for voluntary repatriation, so as to ensure that basic reintegration assistance is complemented by broader development initiatives focused on the areas of return;

13. Supports the strengthened efforts by the High Commissioner to explore protection and assistance strategies that aim at preventing conditions that give rise to refugee outflows and at addressing their root causes, and urges her to pursue such efforts, bearing in mind fundamental protection principles and her mandate, in close coordination with the Governments concerned and within an inter-agency, intergovernmental and non-governmental framework as appropriate;

14. Welcomes, in this context, efforts by the High Commissioner, on the basis of specific requests from the Secretary-General or the competent principal organs of the United Nations and with the consent of the concerned State, to undertake activities in favour of internally displaced persons, taking into account the complementarities of the mandates and expertise of other relevant organizations;

15. Recognizes the importance of the promotion of refugee law as an element of emergency preparedness, as well as to facilitate prevention of and solutions to refugee problems, and calls upon the High Commissioner to continue to strengthen the training and promotion activities of her Office;

16. Strongly deplores ethnic and other forms of intolerance as one of the major causes of forced migratory movements, and urges States to take all necessary steps to ensure respect for human rights, especially the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

17. Notes the relationship between situations giving rise to refugee flows and lack of respect for human rights, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue her efforts to increase cooperation with the Commission on Human Rights, the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat and relevant organizations;

18. Expresses concern regarding xenophobia and racist attitudes in segments of the population in a number of countries receiving refugees and asylum-seekers, which expose them to considerable danger, and, therefore, calls upon States and the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work actively to promote broader understanding throughout national communities of the plight of refugees and asylum-seekers;

19. Welcomes the progress made by the High Commissioner in her efforts to enhance the capacity of her Office to respond to emergencies, and encourages her to continue to work closely with the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, as well as with United Nations organizations and governmental, intergovernmental or non-governmental bodies, to assure a coordinated and effective response to complex, humanitarian emergency situations;

20. Expresses deep concern at conditions, in a number of countries or regions, which seriously endanger the delivery of humanitarian assistance and the security of the staff of the High Commissioner and other relief workers, deplores the recent loss of lives among the staff involved in humanitarian operations, and calls upon States to take all necessary measures to ensure the safe and timely access for humanitarian assistance and the security of international and local staff undertaking humanitarian work in their countries;

21. Expresses deep appreciation for the generous humanitarian response of receiving countries, in particular those developing countries that, despite limited resources, continue to admit large numbers of refugees;

22. Urges the international community, including non-governmental organizations, in accordance with the principle of international solidarity and in the spirit of burden-sharing, to continue to assist the countries referred to in paragraph 21 above and the High Commissioner in order to enable them to cope with the additional burden that the care of refugees and asylum-seekers represents;

23. Calls upon all Governments and other donors to contribute to the programmes of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the need to achieve greater burden-sharing among donors, to assist the High Commissioner in securing additional and timely income from traditional governmental sources, other Governments and the private sector in order to ensure that the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons of concern to the High Commissioner are met.

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A/RES/47/106
26 April 1993

Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 96

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/715)]

47/106. New international humanitarian order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/136 of 14 December 1981, 37/201 of 18 December 1982, 38/125 of 16 December 1983, 40/126 of 13 December 1985, 42/120 of 7 December 1987, 43/129 of 8 December 1988 and 45/101 of 14 December 1990 relating to the promotion of a new international humanitarian order,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/121 of 7 December 1987, 43/130 of 8 December 1988 and 45/102 of 14 December 1990 relating to the promotion of international cooperation in the humanitarian field,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General 1/ and the comments made by various Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations,

Noting the actions being taken by the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system with regard to humanitarian issues, examined by the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues, that fall within their respective mandates,

Convinced that solving humanitarian problems requires international cooperation and harmonization of actions taken by Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as well as individuals,

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1/ A/37/145, A/38/450, A/40/348 and Add.1 and 2, A/41/472, A/43/734 and Add.1, A/45/524 and A/47/352.

Recognizing with concern the continuing need further to strengthen international responses to growing humanitarian challenges, and to undertake creative humanitarian action at the international, regional and national levels to alleviate human suffering and to promote durable solutions to humanitarian problems,

Recognizing further the need for active follow-up to the recommendations and suggestions made by the Independent Commission and the role being played in this regard by the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues, set up for the purpose,

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his continuing active support to the efforts to promote a new international humanitarian order;

2. Urges Governments as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations that have not yet done so to provide their comments and expertise to the Secretary-General regarding the humanitarian order and the report of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues;

3. Invites Governments to make available to the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, information and expertise on humanitarian issues of concern to them in order to identify opportunities for future action;

4. Calls upon Governments, the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations further to develop international cooperation in the humanitarian field;

5. Reiterates that international cooperation in the humanitarian field will facilitate better understanding, mutual respect, confidence and tolerance among countries and peoples, thus contributing to a more just and non-violent world;

6. Invites the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues to continue and further strengthen its essential role in following up the work of the Independent Commission;

7. Encourages the international community to contribute substantially and regularly to the international humanitarian activities required to promote a new humanitarian order;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to remain in contact with Governments as well as governmental and non-governmental organizations and the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues and to report on the progress made by them to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

9. Decides to review at its forty-ninth session the question of a new international humanitarian order.

89th plenary meeting
16 December 1992

UNITED NATIONS **A**

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A/RES/47/107
26 April 1993

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/47/715)]

47/107. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/108 of 16 December 1991,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General 1/ and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2/

Bearing in mind that most of the affected countries are least developed countries,

Convinced of the necessity to strengthen the capacity within the United Nations system for the implementation and overall coordination of relief programmes for refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

Welcoming the prospects for voluntary repatriation and durable solutions across the continent,

Recognizing the need for States to create conditions conducive to the prevention of flows of refugees and displaced persons and to voluntary repatriation,

Bearing in mind that the majority of refugees and displaced persons are women and children,

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1/ A/47/529 and Corr.1.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12 (A/47/12).

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Noting with appreciation the commitment of the countries concerned to do their utmost to facilitate the provision of assistance to the affected populations and to take the necessary measures in this regard,

Realizing the importance of assisting the host countries, in particular those countries which have been hosting refugees for a longer time, to remedy environmental deterioration and the negative impact on public services and the development process,

Recognizing the mandate of the High Commissioner to protect and assist refugees and returnees and the catalytic role she plays, together with the international community and development agencies, in addressing the broader issues of development relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

Bearing in mind the necessity of facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations, in particular the supply of food, medicine and health care to refugees, returnees and displaced persons, deploring acts of aggression against personnel of humanitarian organizations, particularly those that have led to the loss of life, and stressing the need to guarantee the safety of the personnel of those organizations,

Deeply concerned about the critical humanitarian situation in African countries, in particular in the Horn of Africa, caused by drought, conflict and population movements,

Welcoming regional efforts to resolve refugees problems, such as the Declaration adopted at the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the countries of the Horn of Africa, held at Addis Ababa on 8 and 9 April 1992, 3/

Taking into account the revised appeal of the Secretary-General for the Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa,

Deeply concerned by the massive presence of refugees and externally displaced persons in Djibouti, which represents more than 20 per cent of the total population of the country, and by their uninterrupted influx due to the tragic situation in Somalia,

Deeply concerned also by the serious consequences of the presence of refugees and externally displaced persons for the already difficult economic and social situation in Djibouti, which is suffering from prolonged drought and the negative impact of the critical situation in the Horn of Africa,

Recognizing that more than half of the refugees and externally displaced persons in Djibouti are located in Djibouti City in most serious difficulties and without direct international assistance, exerting an intolerable pressure on the limited resources of the country and the social infrastructure and causing, in particular, serious problems of security,

Also recognizing the need for cooperation between the Government of Djibouti and the High Commissioner and relevant organizations to find alternative solutions for the problem of refugees in Djibouti City and to be able to mobilize the necessary external assistance to meet their specific needs,

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3/ See A/47/182, annex.

Aware that the refugee population in the refugee camps throughout Djibouti is in a precarious situation, facing the threat of famine, malnutrition and disease, and that it needs adequate external assistance for the provision of foodstuff, medical assistance and the necessary infrastructure for shelter,

Deeply concerned about the massive presence of refugees, voluntary returnees, displaced persons and demobilized soldiers in Ethiopia and the enormous burden that this has placed on the infrastructure and meagre resources of the country,

Deeply concerned also about the grave consequences that this has entailed for Ethiopia's capability to grapple with the effects of the prolonged drought and rebuild the economy of the country,

Aware of the heavy burden placed on the Government of Ethiopia and of the need for immediate and adequate assistance to refugees, voluntary returnees, displaced persons, demobilized soldiers and victims of natural disasters,

Deeply concerned about the burden that has been placed on the Government and people of Kenya because of the continuing influx of refugees from neighbouring countries that have been stricken by strife and famine,

Recognizing the great contribution and sacrifices that the Government of Kenya has made and continues to make in dealing with this situation while facing deteriorating conditions caused by the impact of the long drought that has affected its own population,

Emphasizing the importance and necessity of continuing assistance to the refugees and diplaced persons in Kenya, estimated at over half a million, until such time as this situation changes,

Deeply concerned about the tragic impact that the civil war in Somalia continues to have on the lives of its people, affecting four to five million people who are either refugees in neighbouring countries or are internally displaced and are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance,

Aware that the voluntary repatriation of large numbers of Somali refugees in neighbouring countries and elsewhere, as well as the return of internally displaced persons to their homes of origin, would require a planned and integrated international assistance programme designed to cover their basic needs, ensure adequate reception arrangements and facilitate their smooth integration into their respective communities,

Convinced that it is necessary that humanitarian assistance to Somali refugees, returnees and displaced persons be mobilized urgently and delivered without delay in view of the deteriorating situation of the displaced persons and returnees and the mounting pressure the refugees continue to place on the host countries,

Recognizing that the Sudan has been hosting large numbers of refugees over an extended period of time,

Aware of the economic difficulties facing the Government of the Sudan, and the need for adequate assistance for the refugees and displaced persons in the Sudan and the rehabilitation of the areas in which they are located,

Encouraging the Government of the Sudan and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the efforts they have undertaken towards voluntary repatriation of large numbers of refugees to their homelands,

Deeply concerned about the plight of Sudanese refugee children, particularly the problem of unaccompanied minors, and emphasizing the need for their protection, well-being and reunification with their families,

Considering that the repatriation and reintegration of returnees and the relocation of displaced persons are hindered by natural disasters and that the process poses serious humanitarian, social and economic problems to the Government of Chad,

Cognizant of the appeal to Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide the necessary assistance to the Government of Chad to alleviate its problems and improve its abilities to implement the programme of repatriation, reintegration and relocation of voluntary returnees and displaced persons,

Noting with appreciation the continuing mediatory efforts of the Economic Community of West African States to find a peaceful solution to the Liberian crisis, and the important decision incorporated in both the Yamoussoukro IV Accord of 30 October 1991 4/ and the Final Communiqué of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States of 29 July 1992 aimed at a final settlement of the conflict,

Bearing in mind the findings and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on emergency humanitarian assistance to Liberian refugees, returnees and displaced persons, 5/ particularly the need to continue emergency relief operations since the security situation is not yet propitious for the conduct of large-scale voluntary repatriation,

Taking into account the special emergency appeal for displaced persons in Liberia made by the Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief Operations in Liberia,

Deeply concerned about the influx of internally displaced persons, returnees and refugees to Monrovia and the enormous burden this has placed on the infrastructure and fragile economy of the country,

Also deeply concerned that, despite the efforts made to provide the necessary material and financial assistance for the refugees, returnees and displaced persons, the situation still remains precarious and has serious implications for the long-term national development of Liberia, as well as for those West African countries hosting Liberian refugees,

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4/ See S/24815.

5/ A/46/432.

Recognizing the heavy burden placed on the people and Government of Malawi and the sacrifices they are making in caring for the refugees, given the country's limited social services and infrastructure, and the need for adequate international assistance to Malawi to enable it to continue its efforts to provide assistance to the refugees,

Gravely concerned about the continuing serious social, economic and environmental impact of the massive presence of refugees, as well as its far-reaching consequences for the long-term development process and environmental effects,

Bearing in mind the findings and recommendations of the 1991 inter-agency mission to Malawi, particularly on the need to strengthen the country's socio-economic infrastructure in order to enable it to provide for the immediate humanitarian relief requirements of the refugees and on the long-term national development needs of the country,

Convinced that, because of the serious economic situation and, in particular, because of the devastating drought in southern Africa, there is an urgent need for the international community to extend maximum and concerted assistance to southern African countries sheltering refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

Welcoming with appreciation the activities of the High Commissioner for the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of South African returnees, and hoping that the obstacles to the return of all refugees and exiles in conditions of safety and dignity will be removed without delay,

Recognizing the need to integrate refugee-related development projects in local and national development plans,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General 1/ and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; 2/

2. Commends the Governments concerned for their sacrifices, for providing assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and for their efforts to promote voluntary repatriation and other measures taken in order to find appropriate and lasting solutions;

3. Expresses deep concern at the serious and far-reaching consequences of the presence of large numbers of refugees and displaced persons in the countries concerned and the implications for their long-term socio-economic development;

4. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner , the specialized agencies of the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, donor countries and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their assistance in mitigating the plight of the large number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

5. Expresses the hope that additional resources will be made available for general refugee programmes to keep pace with refugee needs;

6. Appeals to Member States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to provide adequate and sufficient financial, material and technical assistance for relief and rehabilitation programmes for the large number of refugees, voluntary returnees and displaced persons and victims of natural disasters;

7. Requests all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay particular attention to the special needs of refugee women and children;

8. Calls upon the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner , the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and United Nations humanitarian agencies to continue their efforts to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the relief, repatriation, rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees, returnees and displaced persons, including those refugees in urban areas;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize adequate financial and material assistance for the full implementation of ongoing projects in rural and urban areas affected by the presence of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

10. Requests the High Commissioner to continue her efforts with the appropriate United Nations agencies and intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to consolidate and increase essential services to refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and consolidated report on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", and an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1993.

89th plenary meeting
16 December 1992